

Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Region 2016 Escapement Goal Review and Recommendations



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Summary Report to the 2016 AYK Meeting
of the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Written report: RC 3 Tab 1 (color)

Presentation copy: RC 3 Tab 1 (black)

Arctic Ocean

U.S.

CANADA



1:12,500,000

Kotzebue Sound

Norton Sound

Yukon River

Kuskokwim River

Kuskokwim Bay

Bristol Bay

Bering Sea

AYK Region Salmon Management Areas

-  Kotzebue Sound-Arctic Area
-  Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area
-  Yukon Area
-  Kuskokwim Area



Pacific Ocean

What was reviewed?

- Inventory of existing goals and stocks with significant fisheries
- Updated escapement and abundance time series and analyses
- Management needs and stock assessment
 - Performance of existing goals
 - Ability to assess existing goals
 - Change indicated by updated data and analysis
 - Need for new goals



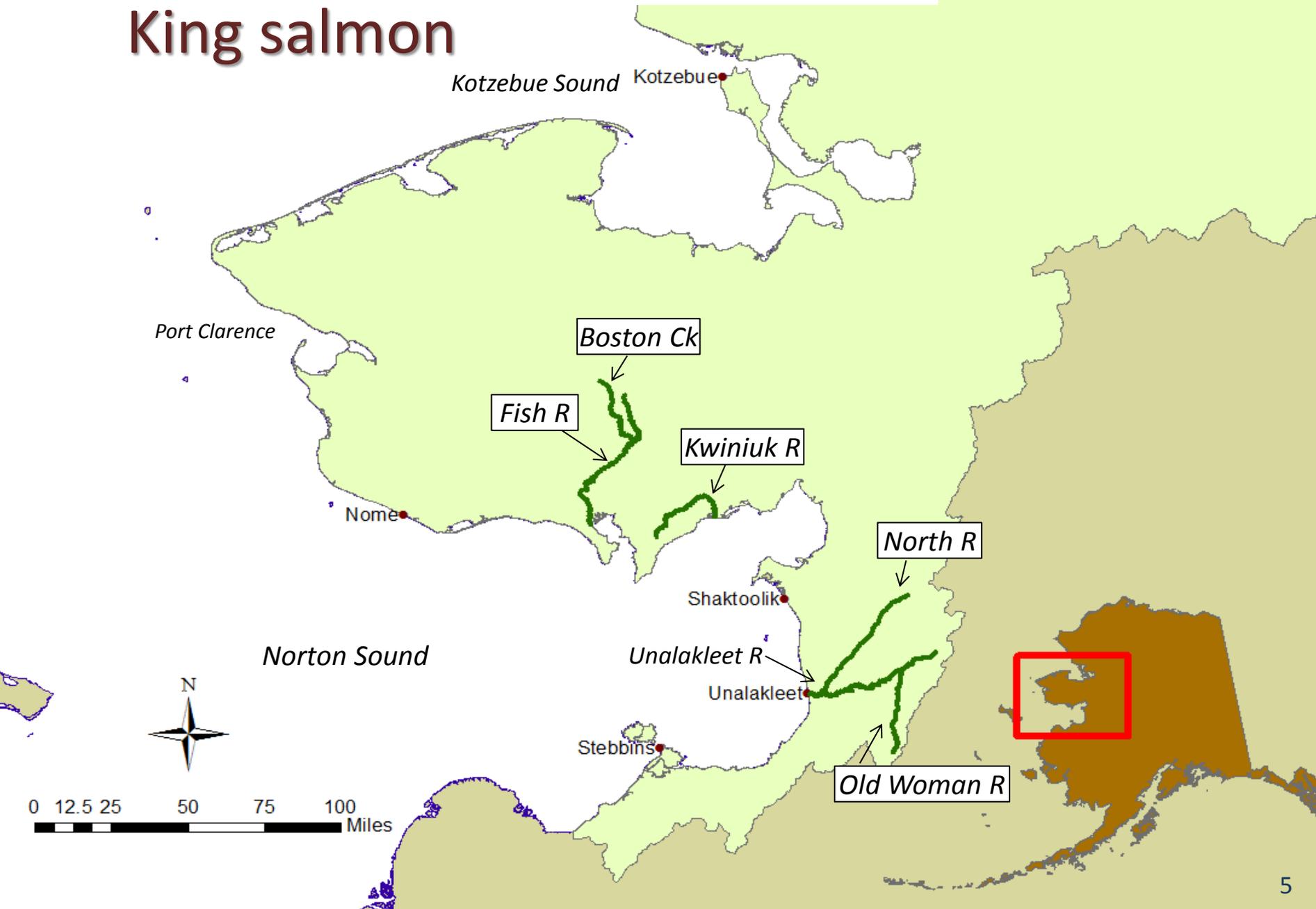
Process for Escapement Goal Recommendations

- Staff planning session, early October 2014
- Large meeting with stakeholders, February 2015
- Preliminary recommendations to stakeholders on March 31, 2015
- Final EG recommendations and Stock of Concern review to Board work session, October 21, 2015
- Approval following Board meeting by Directors of Commercial Fisheries and Sport Fish Divisions



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

King salmon



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

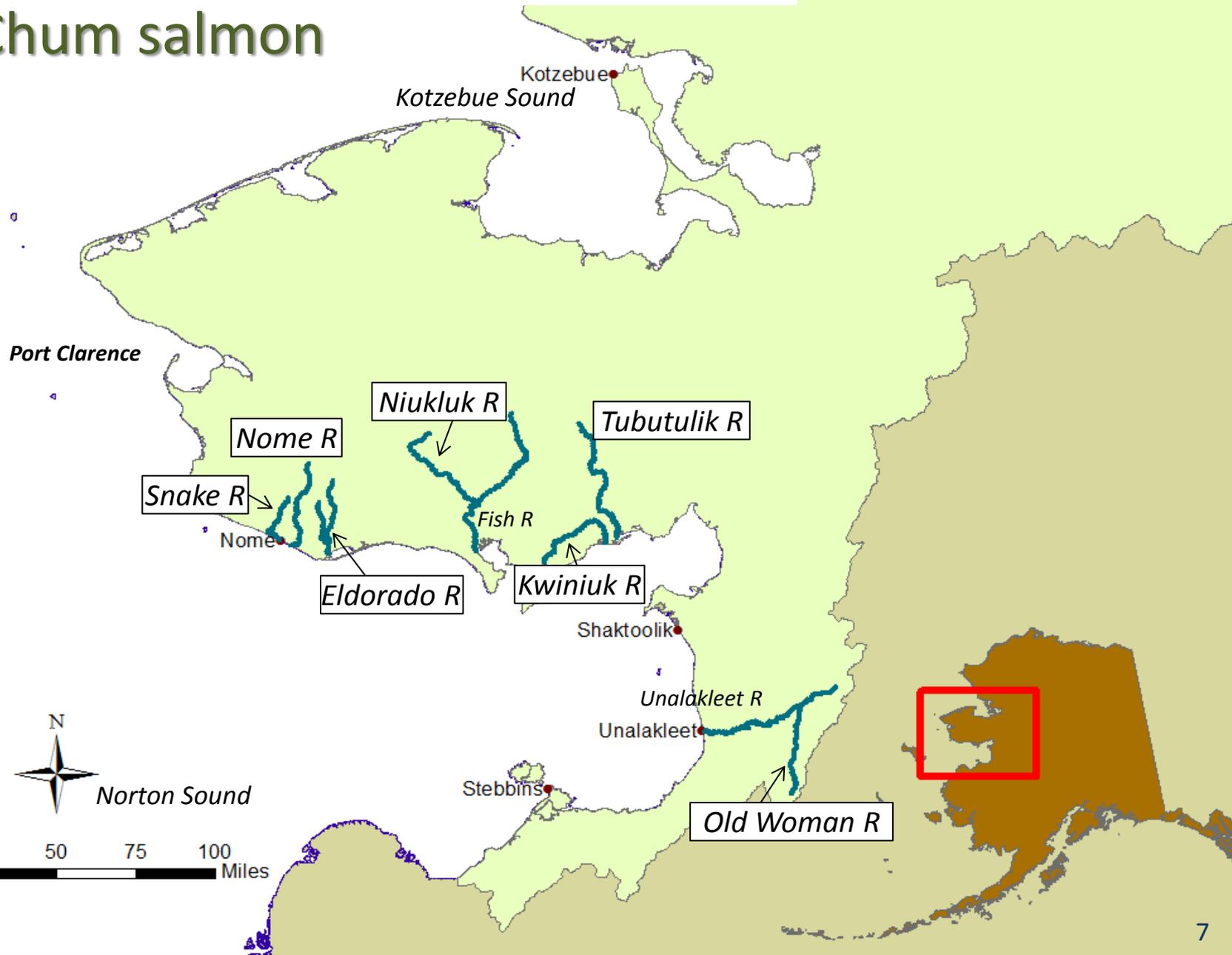
King salmon - Recommended changes

-
- Fish R/Boston Cr and Old Woman (Unalakleet) R :
Discontinue (poor survey conditions prevent accurate assessment of goal)
 - Kwiniuk R: Revise SEG to lower bound > 250 (no targeted commercial fisheries on this stock)
-



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

Chum salmon



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

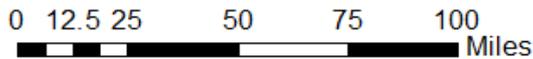
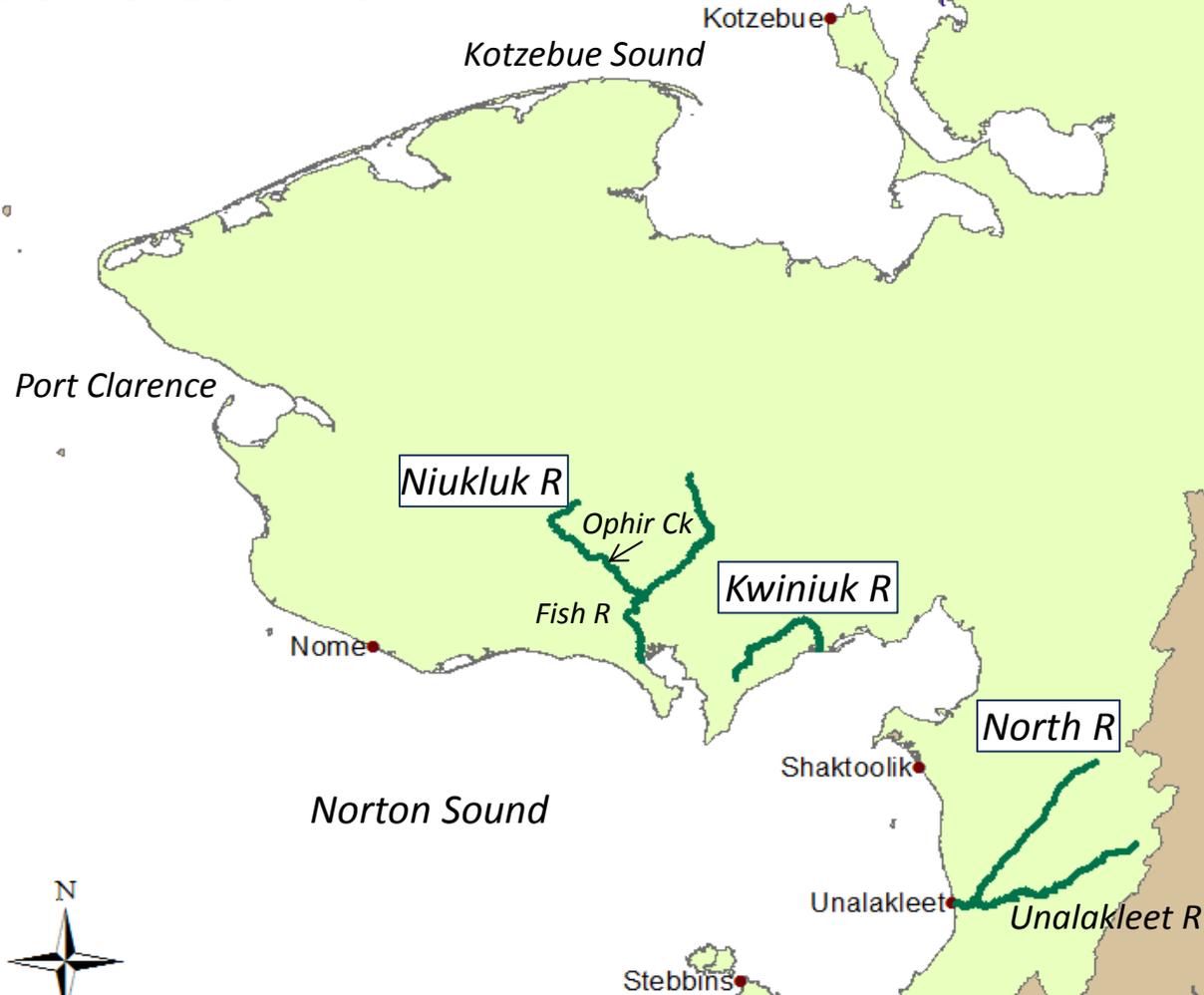
Chum salmon - Recommended changes

-
- Niukluk R: Discontinue (tower no longer operated)
 - Old Woman (Unalakleet) R: Discontinue (poor aerial survey conditions prevent accurate assessment of goal)
-



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

Coho salmon



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

Coho salmon - Recommended changes

-
- Niukluk River: Discontinue (tower no longer operated)
 - Niukluk R/Ophir Ck: New SEG 750 – 1,600 (aerial survey)
-



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

Pink salmon

Sockeye salmon



Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

Pink salmon - Recommended changes

-
- Niukluk River: Discontinue (tower no longer operated)
-

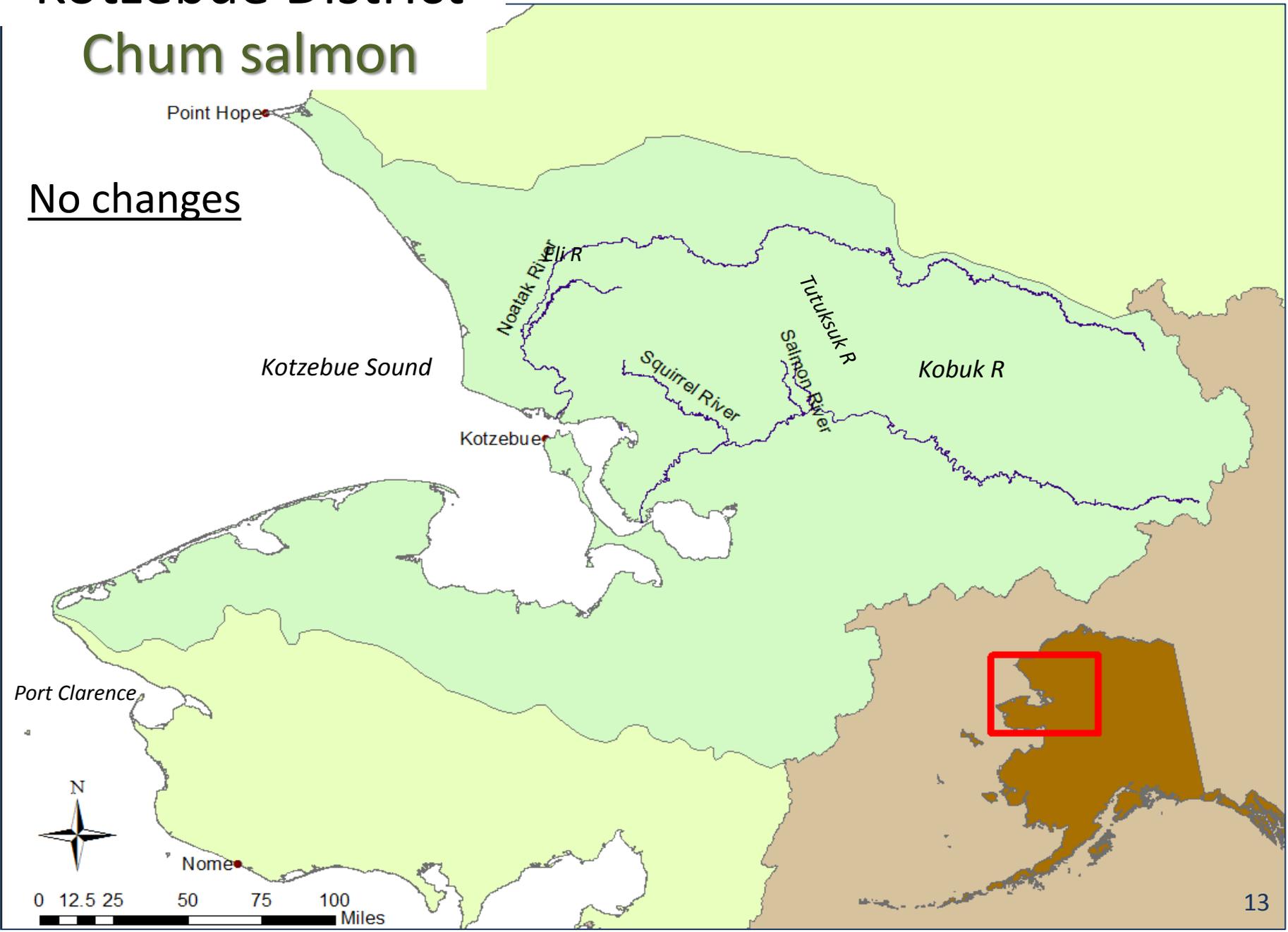
Sockeye salmon - No changes



Kotzebue District

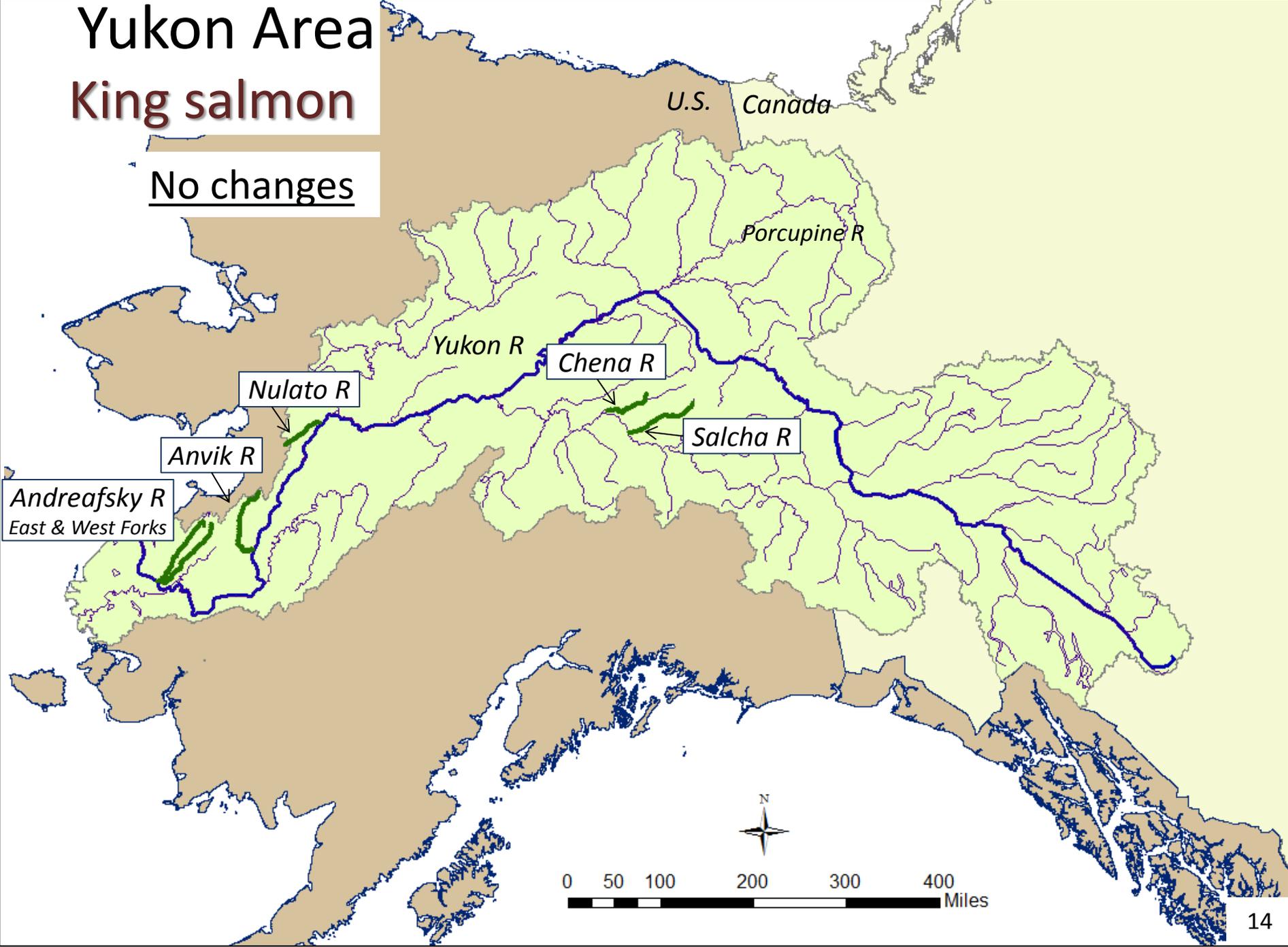
Chum salmon

No changes



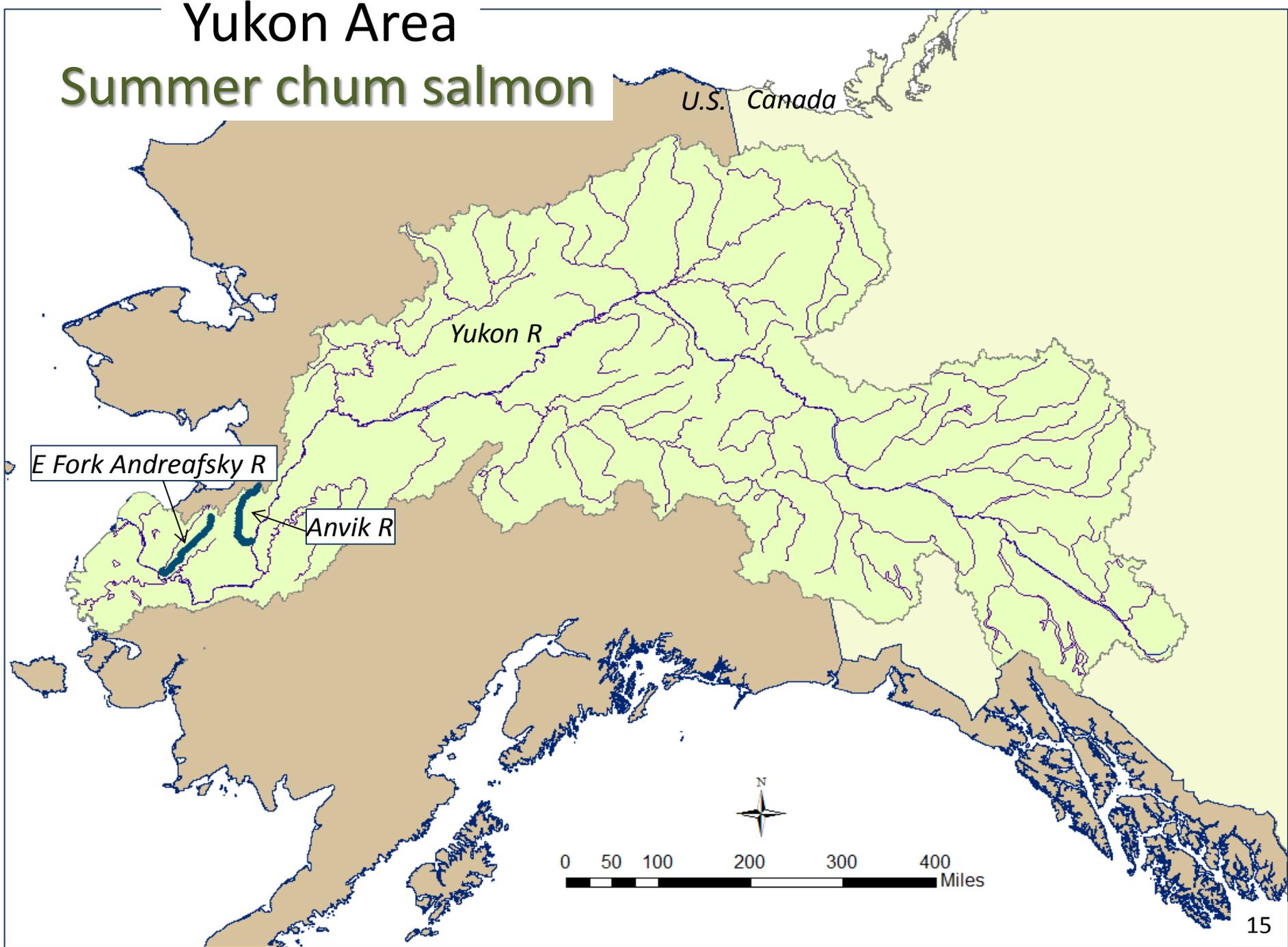
Yukon Area King salmon

No changes



Yukon Area

Summer chum salmon



Yukon Area Summer Chum Salmon

Recommendation: new drainage-wide BEG

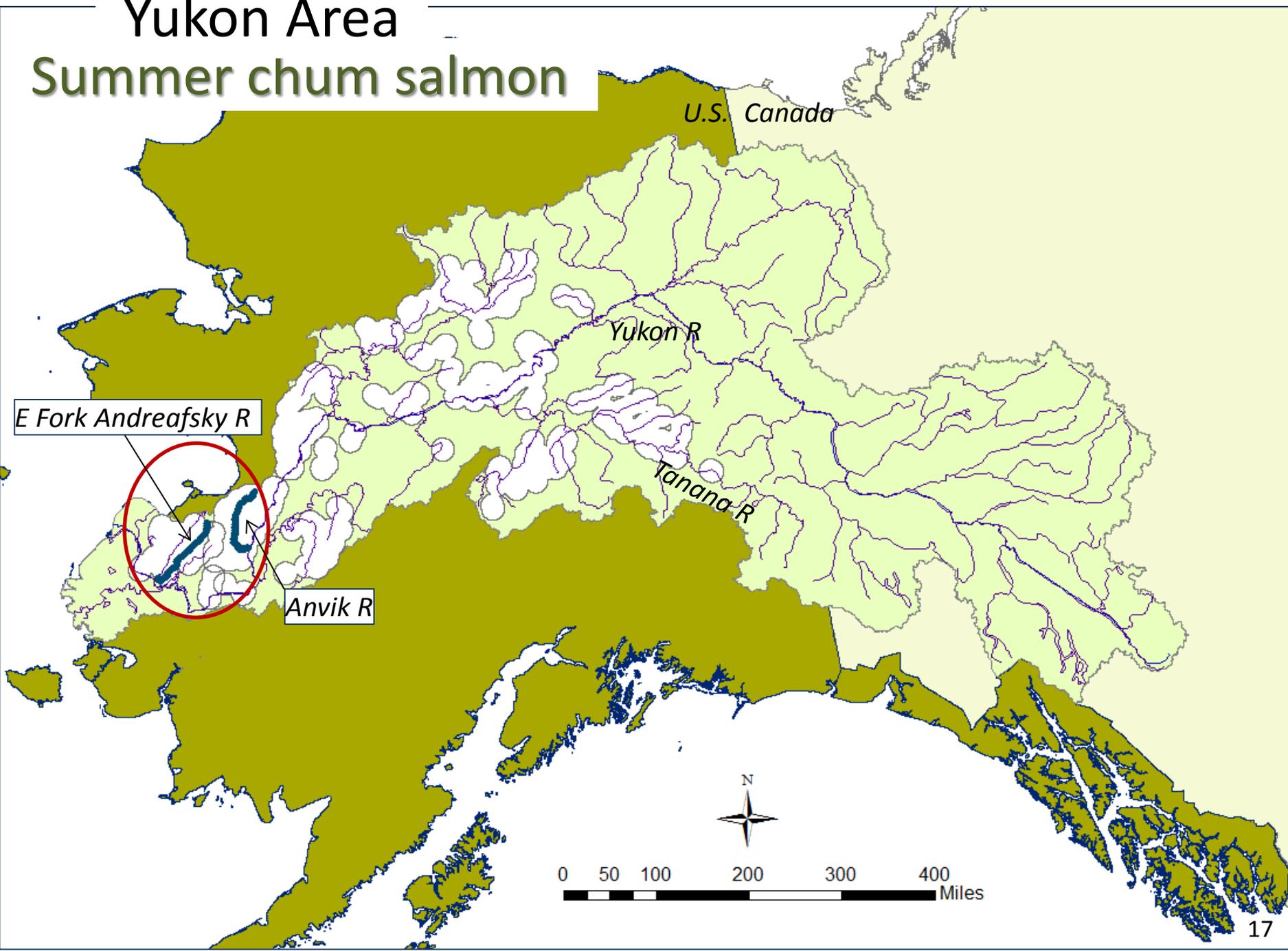
500,000 to 1.2 million fish

- Based on run reconstruction using:
 - 7 ground-based and 6 aerial assessments
 - harvest estimates – subsistence and commercial
 - Pilot Station sonar abundance index
- Continue to assess in-season using sonar index (Pilot Station)
- Verify post-season with run reconstruction



Yukon Area

Summer chum salmon



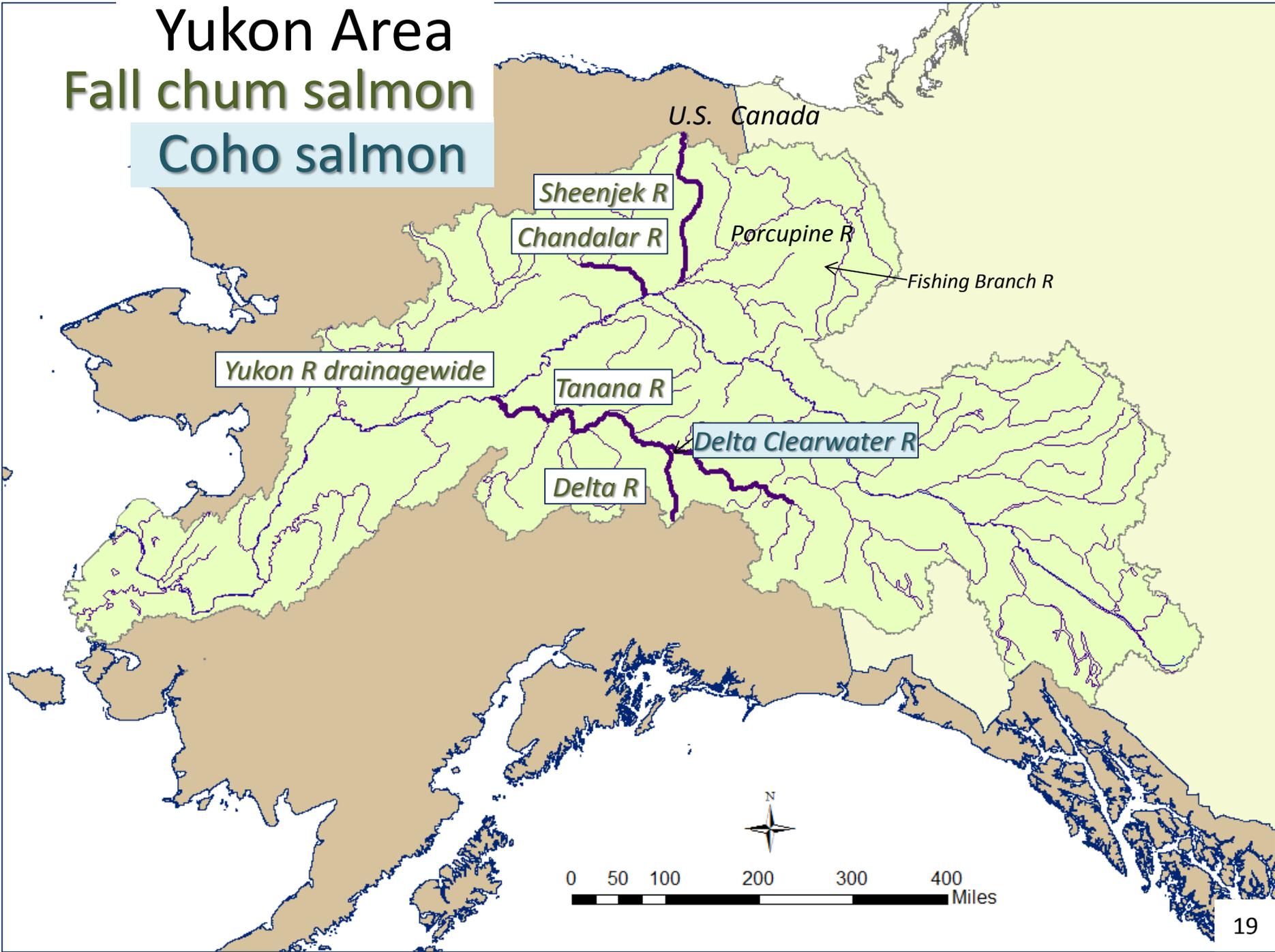
Yukon Area

Summer chum salmon



Yukon Area

Fall chum salmon
Coho salmon



Yukon Area

Fall chum salmon - Recommended changes

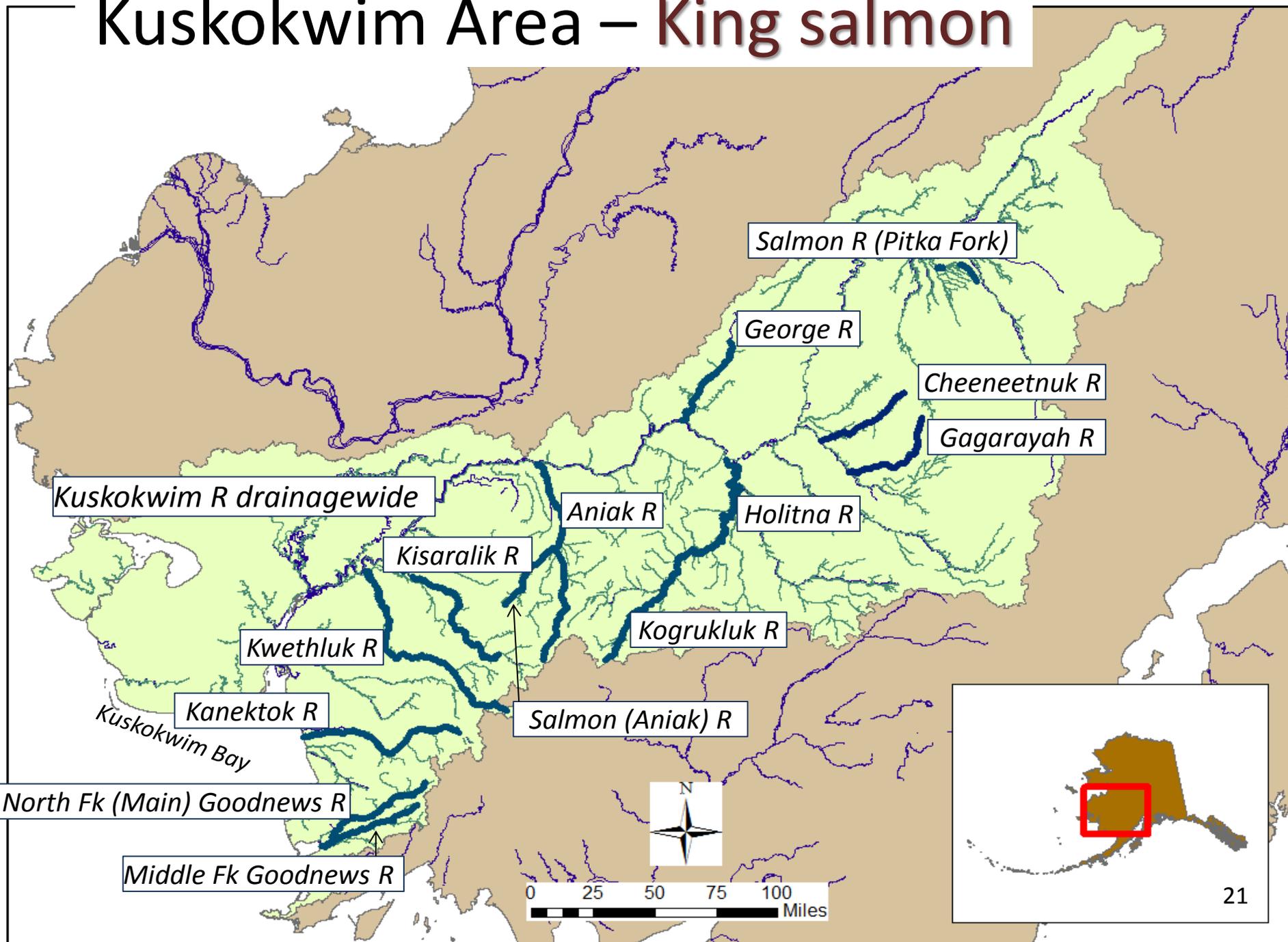
- Sheenjek River: Discontinue (sonar assessment no longer operated)
- Upper Yukon Tributaries¹: Discontinue

¹Includes Chandalar, Sheenjek, Fishing Branch Rivers

Coho salmon - No change



Kuskokwim Area – King salmon



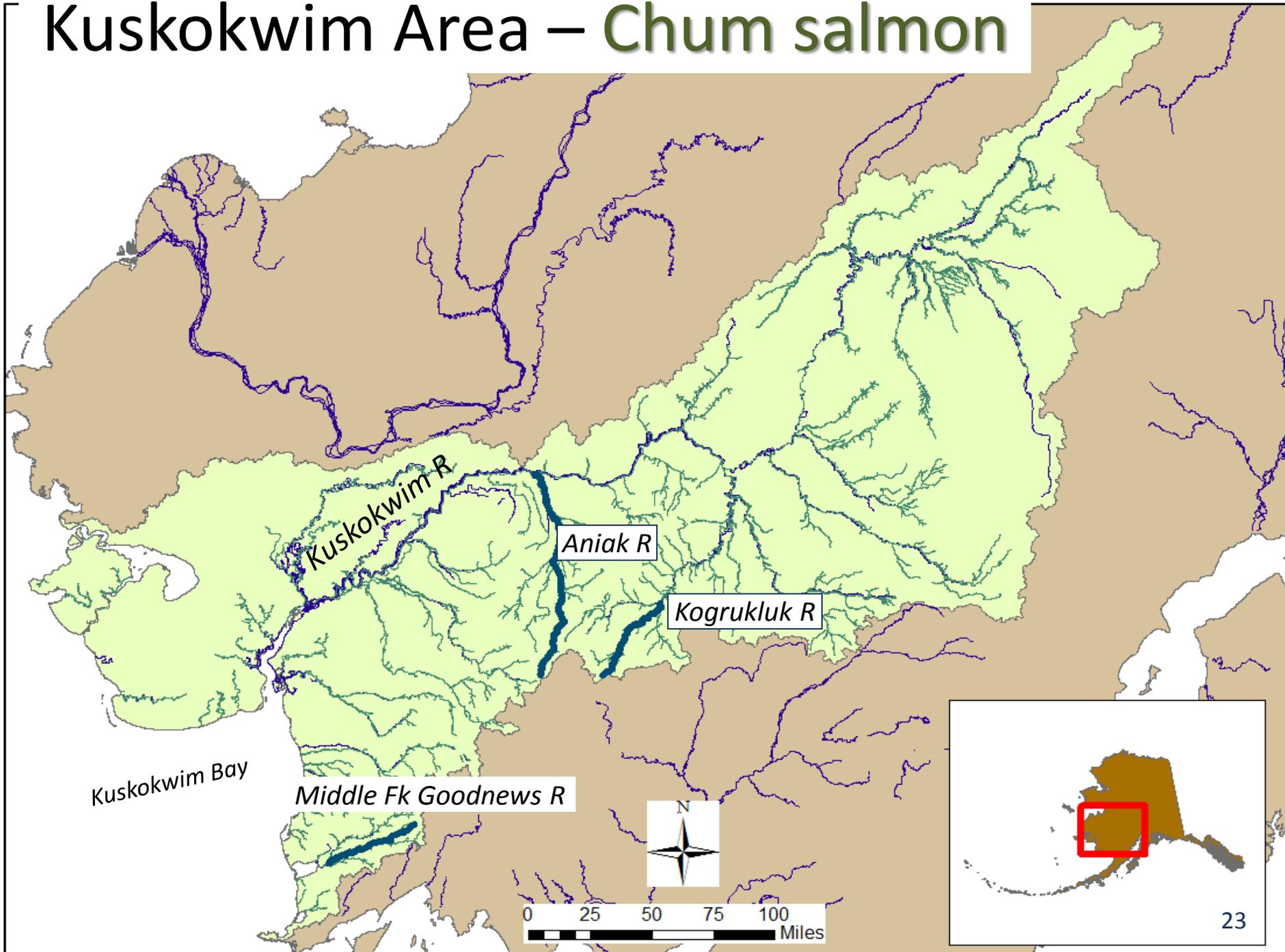
Kuskokwim Area

King salmon - Recommended changes

-
- Kanektok River: Revise goal (based on updated information)
 - Old SEG: 3,500 – 8,000 fish
 - New SEG: 3,900 – 12,000 fish
-



Kuskokwim Area – Chum salmon



Kuskokwim Area

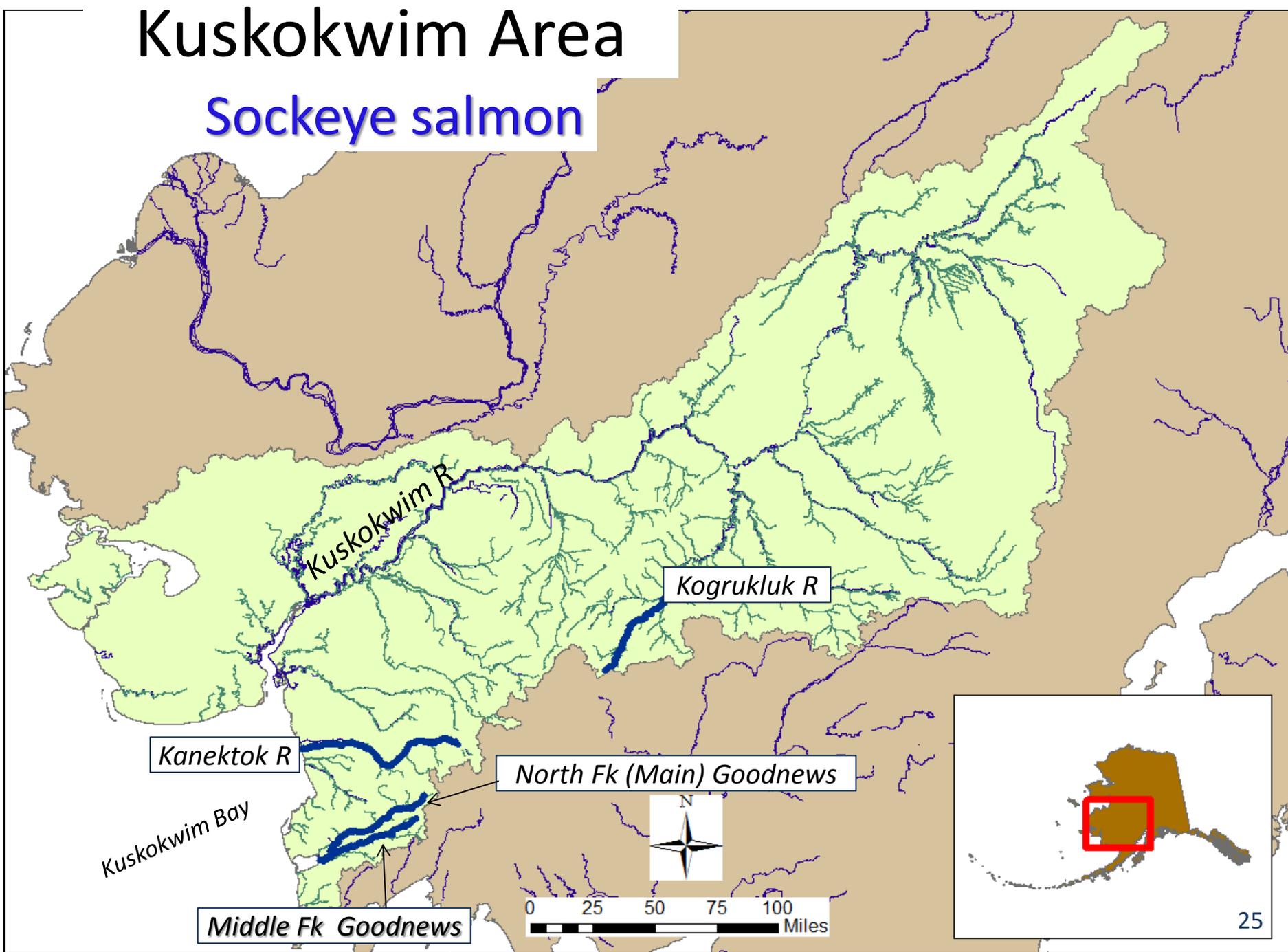
Chum salmon - Recommended change

-
- Aniak River: Discontinue (sonar no longer operated)
-



Kuskokwim Area

Sockeye salmon



Kuskokwim Area

Sockeye salmon - Recommended changes

- Kanektok River: Revise¹
 - Old SEG: 14,000 – 34,000 fish
 - New SEG: 15,300 – 41,000 fish
- North (Main) Fork Goodnews River: Revise¹
 - Old SEG: 5,500 – 19,500 fish
 - New SEG: 9,600 – 18,000 fish

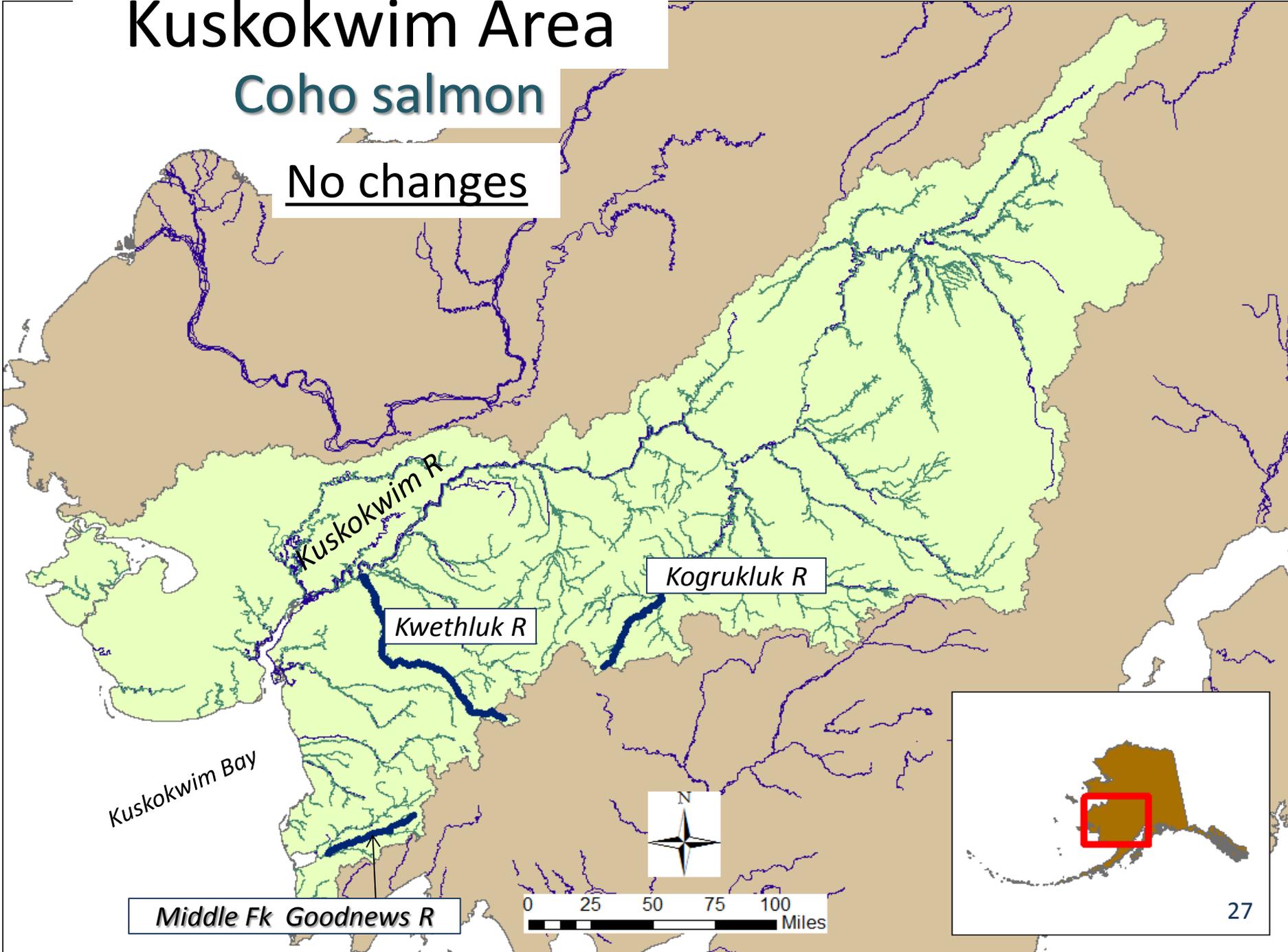
¹ based on updated information



Kuskokwim Area

Coho salmon

No changes



Escapement Goal Evaluation is Ongoing

